

## Maricopa County, Arizona

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**RatingsDirect**  
**Publication Date**

Aug. 21, 2007

**Credit Profile**

US\$108.1 mil lse rev bnds (Maricopa Cnty) ser 2007A due 07/01/2028

**Long Term Rating**

AA+/Stable

New

US\$32.84 mil lse rev rfdg bnds (Maricopa Cnty) ser 2007B due 07/01/2015

**Long Term Rating**

AA+/Stable

New

**Rationale**

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services assigned its 'AA+' rating to Maricopa County Public Finance Corporation, Ariz.'s \$108.1 million series 2007A and \$32.84 million series 2007B lease revenue and refunding bonds, issued in May 2007.

The rating reflects:

- The county's covenant to budget and appropriate lease payments,
- Annual appropriation risk, and
- The general creditworthiness of the county.

For a discussion of the county's general creditworthiness, see the full analysis published Aug. 21, 2007, on RatingsDirect.

The series 2007A lease revenue bonds were issued to fund various capital projects, including court facilities and an animal care and control center. The series 2007B lease revenue refunding bonds were issued to refund various maturities of the county's series 2001 lease revenue bonds. Pursuant to a lease-purchase agreement, the county covenants to budget and appropriate lease payments to the corporation for use of the leased property. The leased property includes the Animal Care and Control Facility, the Southwest Justice Court Facility, which combined for an existing appraised value of \$12.5 million, with estimated value upon project completion of \$47.3 million. Additional leased property includes the county's adult detention facility, an administration center, the Forensic Science Center and Garage, the

Superior Court Customer Service Center and Garage, Security Building, Estrella Jail, and the Downtown Consolidated Justice Courts, all of which combine for an additional \$130.6 million in appraised value.

Additional security is provided by a fully funded reserve fund funded at the lesser of maximum annual debt service, 10% of principal, or 125% average annual debt service.

### ***Outlook***

The stable outlook reflects the county's deep and diverse economic base, strong reserve levels, formalized reserve policies, financial flexibility given its low tax rate, very low debt burden, and a long track record of consistently strong financial results. The county's robust economy, when combined with very strong management practices, is expected to result in continued strong margins and contingency reserves, limited debt financing, and the ability to provide funding for critical capital projects.

<b><i>Ratings Detail (As Of 21-Aug-2007)</i></b>		
<b><i>Maricopa Cnty Pub Fin Corp, Arizona</i></b>		
Maricopa Cnty, Arizona		
Maricopa Cnty Pub Fin Corp (Maricopa Cnty) Ise rev bnds (Maricopa Cnty) ser 2007A due 07/01/2028		
<b><i>Long Term Rating</i></b>	AA+/Stable	New Rating
Maricopa Cnty Pub Fin Corp (Maricopa Cnty) Ise rev rfdg bnds (Maricopa Cnty) ser 2007B due 07/01/2015		
<b><i>Long Term Rating</i></b>	AA+/Stable	New Rating

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